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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
NSC-05 OMB-01 IO-13 EB-08 /087 W
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FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5734
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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 08581

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: HIGH LEVEL EXERCISE PLANNING GROUP (HLEPG)
MEETING FOR HILEX-8

REF: STATE 207638 DTG 302309Z AUG 77
-
SUMMARY: AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE HLEPG FOR HILEX-8 ON SEPTEMBER 6 AND 7, 1977 DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES; THE MEANS TO IMPROVE/EXPAND VARIOUS INCIDENT LISTS; PLAY (MECHANICS AND CONTENT) OF RESOURCE PROBLEMS; AND THE MODALITIES OF RESPONSE CELL PLAY. NEW WORKING PAPER DOCUMENTS WILL BE ISSUED PRIOR TO THE NEXT HLEPG MEETING, NOW SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 29 AND 30. ACTION REQUESTED: SEE PARAGRAPHS 5, 6, 12 AND 13. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SECOND MEETING OF THE HLEPG FOR HILEX-8 CONVENED ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1977. ALL DPC NATIONS, LESS PORTUGAL AND
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LUXEMBOURG ATTENDED. GREECE DID NOT PARTICIPATE. EXCEPT FOR THE US AND THE NETHERLANDS, ALL NATIONS WERE REPRESENTED BY EXPERTS FROM CAPITALS. THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO AGENDA ITEMS (AC/287(H-8)-A/2(REVISED)).

2. AGENDA ITEM I - SOVIET OBJECTIVES DURING THE EXERCISE. MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES ONLY.

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3. AGENDA ITEM II - REVISED DRAFT PRE-EXERCISE SETTING. EXCEPT FOR MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES, DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON PARA 153 WHERE SEVERAL NATIONS (NOTABLY FRG) AND SHAPE REQUESTED ADDITION OF AN "IMPLEMENTED" COLUMN FOR THE LISTED MEASURES. THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AGREED TO DO THIS. MEASURES SLA AND SOB ARE TO BE DELAYED SO THAT DPC DISCUSSION OF THESE MEASURES IS POSSIBLE. ADDITIONALLY, SACLANT REP CIRCULATED A PAPER WHICH ADDS TO THE NAVAL EVENTS CONTAINED IN PARA 152. THESE EVENTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE WORKING PAPER FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT HLEPG MEETING.

4. AGENDA ITEM III - DRAFT MILITARY INCIDENT LISTS. MINOR EDITORIAL CHANGES WITH UK AND FRG INDICATING THEY WOULD MAKE ADDITIONAL INPUTS.

5. AGENDA ITEM IV - PREPARATION OF POLITICAL INCIDENT LIST. NATIONS INDICATED THEY WERE WORKING ON THEIR RESPECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE POLITICAL INCIDENT LISTS. NORWEGIAN REP STATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES LACKED THE REQUIRED EXPERTISE TO ADDRESS HUNGARY AND REQUESTED THE IS TO TAKE UP THE TASK. THE CHAIRMAN AGREED. THE CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ALL NATIONAL INPUTS IN BY EARLY OCTOBER BUT IN NO CASE LATER THAN OCTOBER 14, 1977. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON INPUT ON THIRD WORLD BY
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OCTOBER 11, 1977.

6. AGENDA ITEM V - PLAY OF RESOURCES PROBLEMS. THE FRG WITHDREW ITS PAPER (AC/287(H-8)-WP/7) NOTING THAT THE QUESTION OF REFUGEE PLAY WAS STILL BEING DISCUSSED IN BONN. THE FRG REP PROMISED A NEW PAPER BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER AND SAID THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY FOCUS ON PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH TOURISTS. ON PHARMACEUTICALS, THE FRG SUGGESTED PLAY OF AN INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC AND THE LACK OF PROPER DRUGS TO CONTROL THE OUTBREAK. WE NOTED THAT SUCH AN OUTBREAK WOULD/COULD ALSO AFFECT ALL MILITARY FORCES AND WOULD COMPOUND THE PROBLEM OF READINESS AND RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION PRIORITIES. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREE-MENT ON THIS POINT. THE CHAIRMAN REQUESTED NATIONS WITH FORCES IN THE FRG TO AGREE TO INCLUDE MILITARY FORCES IN THE EPIDEMIC PLAY AND, IF THEY AGREE, PROVIDE INCIDENT LIST INPUT FOR THE PRE-EXERCISE AND EXERCISE PLAY. (THE TEXT OF THE PRELIMINARY FRG INPUT FOLLOWS IN PARA 15). ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON COMMENT AND, IF AGREED, INPUT AS REQUESTED BY OCTOBER 11, 1977.

7. ON GRAINS, THE GROUP AGREED TO THE CONTENT OF AC/287(H-

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8)-WP/8. WE NOTE THAT THIS PAPER COMMITS THE US TO MAKE SEVERAL SPECIFIC INPUTS JUST PRIOR TO STARTEX. WE EXPECT WP/7 AND WP/8 TO BE COMBINED INTO A COGENT PACKAGE PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING.

8. AGENDA ITEM VI - PROPOSAL TO SIMULATE OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH RESPONSE CELLS. THE FRG WITHDREW ITS PAPER (AC/287(H-8)-WP/9. WITHDRAWAL WAS BASED PARTLY ON A DESIRE TO RESTRICT PLAY AND PARTLY AS A RESULT OF POLITICAL SENSITIVITY. PLAY WILL NOW FOCUS ON

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USNMR SHAPE BE
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THE EEC ONLY AND THE FRG WILL PROVIDE A NEW PAPER. THE FRG AND THE NETHERLANDS VOLUNTEERED TO PROVIDE AN EXPERT TO SERVE ON THE EEC RESPONSE CELL. MODALITIES OR RESPONSE CELL PLAY WERE DISCUSSED IN GENERAL TERMS, AND THE CHAIRMAN PROMISED TO DEVELOP SOME FIRM THOUGHTS PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING.

9. AGENDA ITEM VII - FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME. THE CHAIRMAN REVIEWED THE WORK TO BE DONE AND STATED THAT IF ALL REQUIRED INPUTS WERE RECEIVED FROM NATIONS BY OCTOBER 14, 1977, HE WOULD HAVE A NEW SET OF WORKING PAPERS OUT BY THE END OF OCTOBER -- ONE MONTH PRIOR TO THE NEXT MEETING.

10. AGENDA ITEM VIII - DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE HLEPG WILL BE NOVEMBER 29 AND 30, 1977. A

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FINAL MEETING MAY BE REQUIRED IN LATE JANUARY 1978.

11. AGENDA ITEM IX - ANY OTHER BUSINESS. THE CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED THAT GREECE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE
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PLANNING FOR HILEX-8 AND STATED, AT TURKISH REQUEST, THAT IT WAS UNKNOWN IF GREECE WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE EXERCISE. HE NOTED THAT THEY HAD NOT DONE SO IN THE PAST.

12. THE NETHERLANDS REP RAISED THE QUESTION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION PLAY. HE STATED, AND MOST AGREED, THAT THIS WAS AN AREA OF GREAT IMPORTANCE AND ONE WHICH WAS NOT ADEQUATELY PLAYED. HE SUGGESTED THAT AN EXERCISE PRESS SERVICE, COMPOSED OF NATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICERS (PIO) PLAY AT HANDLING PRESS RELATIONS AND OFFERED THE SERVICES OF A NETHERLANDS PIO FOR THIS PURPOSE. THE QUESTION WAS LEFT OPEN BUT THE CHAIRMAN SUGGESTED THE ITEM BE HANDLED BY COEC. COMMENT: IN OUR VIEW THIS IDEA IS WORTH PURSUING. WE SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MOCK PRESS SERVICE TO TEST THE MECHANISMS FOR DISSEMINATING INFORMATION DURING TIMES OF CRISIS. END COMMENT. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON VIEWS/GUIDANCE.

13. COL GODEFROID (SACEUR REP) WHO WORKS THE ALERTS TASK GROUP UNDER TF2 OF THE NATO INITIATIVES PROGRAM, SUGGESTED THAT HIS GROUP'S WORK ON THE NATO ALERTS PROGRAM BE TESTED DURING HILEX-8 (USNATO 8217 DTG 291428Z AUG 77 REFERS). MANY, ESPECIALLY THE NETHERLANDS, VIEWED THE SUGGESTION AS A "HOT POTATO". THE FEELING WAS THAT NOT ENOUGH WORK WOULD HAVE BEEN DONE AND THAT TOO EARLY A TEST WOULD RESULT IN CONFUSION. COMMENT: WE AGREE THAT THE PROPOSED TF2 PROGRAM SHOULD NOT NOW BE BROUGHT INTO PLAY. END COMMENT. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON GUIDANCE.

14. WE WILL FORWARD, WITH OUR COMMENTS, THE REVISED WORKING PAPERS AS THEY ARE RECEIVED.

15. PER PARA 6 ABOVE THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF THE FRG
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PHARMACEUTICAL PROBLEM. BEGIN TEXT:
INITIAL SITUATION: THE APPEARANCE OF A NEW INFLUENZA VIRUS (H3N3) AT THE TURN OF THE YEAR 1977/78 HAS LED TO A FEDERAL WIDE INFLUENZA WAVE WHICH HAS IN THE MEANTIME SPREAD TO ABOUT 40 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION AND ALSO OF THE ARMED

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FORCES STATIONED ON THE TERRITORY OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. THE NEW VIRUS CAUSES AN EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH RATE (70 PERCENT) OF HEART-CIRCULATION COMPLICATIONS SO THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE PERSONS INFECTED NEED HEART-CIRCULATION SUPPORT FOR 10 - 14 DAYS AND ABOUT ONE THIRD AFTER-TREATMENT WITH HEART-CIRCULATION MEDICINES FOR SEVERAL WEEKS.

E-DAY: 15 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION SICK AT PRESENT. THE HEART-CIRCULATION MEDICINE STOCKS OF THE PHARMACIES ARE EXHAUSTED. THE WHOLESALE TRADE HAS COMPLETELY DELIVERED ITS STOCKS. IT WILL TKAE THE INDUSTRY AT LEAST 2 WEEKS TO CONVERT ITS PRODUCTION.

E PLUS 1: THE REQUIREMENT FOR HEART-CIRCULATION MEDICINES CANNOT NEARLY BE MET EITHER FROM THE MEDICAL SUPPLY STOCKS FOR CIVIL DEFENCE. A RAPID SUPPORT OF MEDICINE SUPPLY IS URGENTLY NECESSARY.

DELIVERIES FROM THE ADJOINING NEIGHBOUR COUNTRIES, THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM AND FRANCE, WOULD BE ESPECIALLY EFFECTIVE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NATO08581
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: n/a
Format: TEL
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770983/aaaacsft.tel
Line Count: 248
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 207638 DTG 302309Z AUG 77, SUMMARY AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE, SEPTEMBER 6 AND 7, 1977 DISCUSSION FOCUSED ON MINOR, EDITORIAL CHANGES, THE MEANS TO IMPROVE/EXPAND VARIOUS
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1340306
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HIGH LEVEL EXERCISE PLANNING GROUP (HLEPG) MEETING FOR HILEX-8
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
To: SECSTATE WASHDC WASHDC MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fc112c4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009